NEW-YORK, MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 1883.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON,

TOPICS OF NATIONAL INTEREST. OFFOSING KETCHUM'S CONFIRMATION-PROSPECTS

THE NAVAL BILL-THE LIFE-SAVING SERVICE. Appraiser Howard has submitted to the Senate Committee on Commerce a statement and affidavits in his own behalf and against the confirmation of General Ketchum. A correspondent of THE TRIBUNE states that the friends of tariff revision in Congress are more hopeful than they were recently, and points out some of the dangers that threaten the Ways and Means bill. Naval officers are opposed to certain provisions of the Naval Appropriations bili and will endeavor to make their hostility felt. Mr. Kimball, Superintendent of the Life-Saving Service, has written a letter protesting against the proposed transfer to the Navy

APPRAISER HOWARD'S STATEMENT. AIMING TO SHOW THAT MR. KETCHUM IS NOT THE MAN TO TAKE HIS PLACE. BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.-Appraiser Howard, of New-York, has submitted to the Senate Committee on Commerce a statement and certain affidavits giving reaso s why General Appraiser Ketchum ought not to be confirmed as his successor. He starts out by saying that Ketchum was removed from the office of General Appraiser in 1877 for cause, upon the reports of numerous special agents that he habitually undervalued merchandise; that is to say, he generally decided against the Government and in favor of the importers in cases that came before him. Assistant Appraiser Baush, who was nominated to take Mr. Ketchum's place, declined the offl e, and Mr. Ketchum was then enabled through family and political influence to retain the position. About six months ago the chief officers and other members of twenty-three out of the twenty-four Republican district associations of the city of New-York recommended the removal of Mr. Ketchum and the appointment of Alderman McLean in his place. This act, Mr. 110 vard alleges, was due to the knowledge these Republicans had of abuses in Mr. Kercoum's office.

Mr. Howard proceeds to show that the expenditure for clerical force in each year from 1870 to 1873 inclusive, under General Appraiser Hogeboom, was only \$3,700; in 1882, under Mr. Ketchum, it was \$15,253 71. The increase of importations and of the business of the office does not justify anything approaching this increase. Mr. Howard asserts that no less than \$9,153 71 of public money is wasted in this way. John J. Ketchum, a brother of General Appraiser Ketchum, has been drawing pay as a clerk at \$1,200 per annum since January 7, 1881, but has been doing little or no work for the Government. He had no desk in the office, was not seen there more than once or twice, each month, and all the time that he was on the pay-roll he was practising as a physician. He resigned his position on January 5, 1883, the day on which Mr. Howard's charges against him were made public. Mr. Howard's charges against him were made public. Mr. Howard's charges against him were made public. Mr. Howard remarks that "suncide is confession," and says, concerning other members of the clerical force, that Benjamin Tuzo, a brother-inlaw of Mr. Ketchum, is on the pay-roll at \$2,500 per annum; that Edward Everett, also a relative, gets \$1,600 and another relative \$1,200; that W. S. Helyer, now drawing pay at \$1,000 per annum; was out on the pey-roll by General Appraiser Ketchum in 1874 at \$2,500 per annum, though he was men only a boy syctometry pairs of aga; that Edward S. Fowler, the law clerk, is paid \$2,000 but is niseless; that he was delived by Appraiser Howard in March, 1881, for cause; that he pracises faw at No. 6 Pine-st, where his office bours are from 9 to 5, out spends much time at his home, in Newburg and in Washington. W. A. Donnelly, clerk and stenographer, at \$1,700 per annum; is alleged to spend most of his time in Mr. Ketchum.'s private law office, a mile and a hal: from the Appraiser's Department.

Mr. Howard reviews briefly his own qualifications for the flice which he holds, and asserts hat he has faithfully obstred the holds, and asserts hat he has faithfully obstred the holds, and asserts hat he has faithfully obstred the friendship of Presilents Hayes and Garneld also; that since the Geath of President Garneld has so, that since the Geath of President Garneld has so the same of the members of the order of the manual private law office, a mile and a hal: from the Appraiser's Department.

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Lincoln and enjoyed the friendship of Presidents Hayes and Garneld also; that since the death of President Garneld he has been "hounded and vidiled as no public officer has probably been heretofore"; that a combination or conspiracy against him has existed for a year, the leading persons engaged in this being George Bliss, Special Agent Brackett, Inspector O'Belrne, Hugh Hastings, W. D. Sampson, E. D. Fowler, "the members of the Wasnington Treasury Ring," and others. Mr. Howard concinds his memorial by saying that the collector and Surveyor of the Port, Special Agent tra Ayer, jr., ex-Appraisers McEirath, Darling and Duener, and many othes, will come forward upon the invitation of the committee and testify earnestly and warmiv in his behalf. and many other invitation of the committee and testify earnestly and warmly in his behalt.

In an accompanying affidavit Mr. Howard declares that in July, 1882, Special Agent Brackett teld him, that an untavorable paragraph has been added, at the repeated and urgent solicitation of G orge Bisss, to he report in which he Mr. Bracket had exonerated Mr. Howard from all charges gainst his integrity; also that he would show Mr. Howard at some future time an official letter from the content of the property of t Treasury Department which, read between the lines, pressed him to find Mr. Howard guilty with

or without evidence.

John T. Clark and Henry Richard, former clerks
in the General Appraiser's office, make
affidavits supporting Appraiser Howard's statements as to the work done and sa aries paid prior to the appointment of Mr. Ketchum. The only other affidavit is that of Robert S. Brownell, which shows that John J. Ketchum was a practising physician while he was on the Govern-

CONGRESS AND TARIFF REVISION.

AN IMPROVED PROSPECT FOR THE BILL OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE-THE DANGERS TO BE ENCOUNTERED.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 .- Within the last three or four days the Representatives who favor tariff revision on the basis of the bill reported by the Ways and Means Committee have found new courage, and many who were almost ready to despair a week ago now express a strong hope that a Tariff bill will be adopted by this Congress. A belief that the Ways and Means bill will pass the House with sm indiments is becoming stronger every day. No

doubt this improved condition of feeling is largely due to the fact that the general debate has awakened considerable enthusiasm in the Republican ranks, which have also been solidified by the reckless abuse and misstatements indulged in by the free-trade Democrats in their speeches, some of which so recked with ignorance and malice as to disgust even the extremest "revenue reformers" on the Republican side.

Democrats like Bland and Mills have fairly earned the thanks of the Republican leaders. Among the Republicans who have been regarded as fit subjects for missionary efforts by the tariff men, is Mr. Calkins, of Indiana, whose name has occupied a piace on all the lists of "doubtful" Representatives. In reply to a question by a TRIBUNE correspondent, to-day, however, Mr. Calkins said that, while he did not approve the bill in ad its details, he would support and vote for it, and would offer no amendments to it. Of course, he may vote for amendments offered by others, but even then his course will be governed

The threats of the free trade Democrats to filibuster at every stage in the Committee of the Whole, unless their scheme of wholesale amendment is successfui, have also produced a good effect on the Republicans. It is difficult to estimate the actual strength of the filibusters; but they claim from 35 to 40 votes, and they can probably muster enough to delay business considerably by requiring a quorum on each motion. It is no secret that the number of amendments they will propose is legion. In the delay which it will thus be in the power of the obstructionists to cause, lies the chief danger many objectionable amendments in the Committee | master nor Commissary. Many of the duties of the Whole that the measure will be unable to analogous to those performed for the Army

command the support of a majority in the House. That the first danger is real no one can doubt-a very small number of men determined that no tariff bill shall pass can so delay proceedings in the Committee of the Whole as to make its defeat ex-OF TARIFF REVISION-NAVAL OFFICERS AND

tremely probable, if not certain. In the course of the debate it was stated the total number of items to be considered in all the schedules is about 2,000. To each of these any member may offer an amendment and speak five minutes; if he demands a vote it must be taken, and if no quorum appears he may have another vote by tellers. Then another member may offer an amendment and the same process be repeated, again and again, until the committee rises and the House formally decides that amendment and debate on that item shall cease. A simple calculation will show that a few determined obstructionists will have it in their power to do an unlimited amount of mischief. The failure to adopt the Hiscock rule will probably turn out to be a mistake. With such a rule only one metion to adjourn could be entertained prior to the hour fixed for daily adjournment; now such a motion may be made at any time when the House is not in Committee of the Whole. Only thirty working days remain before the expiration of this Congress, and neither the Legislative, the Sundry Civil, nor the General Deficiency Appropriation bills has yet been reported to the House. Chairman Hiscock, of the Appropriations Committee, hopes the e bills will take less time than usual, and he and several other members of the Committee have expressed a willingness to have them considered at evening sessions; but after an all days sion on the Tariff bill it will be extremely difficult to secure a proper attendance as a night sitting for the consideration

bill it will be extremely difficult to secure a proper attendance at a night sitting for the consideration of these important measures.

Moreover the same necessity for keeping a quorum may be found to exist as on the Tariff bill itself, if the constructionists choose. The last of the appropriation bills must in some way be sent to the Senate as early as February 22, and it is probable that they will occupy the House four or five days at they will occupy the House four or five days at the very least. Besides, there are four or five confested election cases to be disposed or, three of which are likely to provoke discussion and occupy considerable time in the House. On three days lexislative proceedings must be suspended at 3 o'clock p. m., the remander of each day having occupied for "alogies upon the late Representatives Hawk, Orth and Updegraff, Mr. Shackletord, of North Catolina, also died recently, but no day for the culouses in his case has yet occased apart. Unless a standing rule of the House shall be changed, February 5 and 19 will be devoted to business under suspension of the rules. It will thus be seen that unless the Tariff bill can run the ganntlet seen that unless the Tariff bill can run the gauntlet seen that unless the Tariff bill can run the gauntlet of the Communities of the Whole and pass the House within the next fitteen days, its prespects will be extremly doub int, is not altogener hop less. Of course a creat deason be done in fifteen days when the House really desires to reach an end, and it is possible that in the absence of factious opposition the far if oil might be sent to the Senate by the middle or next month, out tariff legislation has always been slow and difficult.

Within the next three days the factics and strength of the opposition to the bill will be fully developed and a better judgment can be formed respecting the temper of the House and the prospects of the pending bill or any other tariff legisla-

respecting the temper of the House and the prospects of the pending bill or any other tariff legislation by this ongress.

Better progress was made in the Senate yesterday than on any previous days, and a feeting of greater encouragement prevails among the friends of the Farm off than at any time within the last week. Another day's work remains to be done upon the metal sche inle, out those features which were by universal consent held to be the most difficultiodispose of are already past. Predictions are still neard that no bill will be passed, out those who entertain such opinions seem to be in a decreasing minority.

of them really appear to believe that this terrible "looby" is wholly composed of "tariff robbers," This is a great mistake. Manufacturers are here, but if a poli were taken they would be found in the minori y, unless were counted with them such men as President Jewett and his associates of the Iron and Steel Workers' Association, who represent from 80,000 to 100,000 workmen in these industries, and the representatives of skilled labor in other manufactures.

The fact that Mr. Oliver and Mr. Park, both extensive manufacturers, are in Washington is heraided far and wide; but the fact that John Maddox, agent of the Staffordshire, England, pottery manufacturers, is also here, working with might and main to secure such a reduction of the ducies on earthenware as will drive American manufacturers to the wall, is kept in the background. The agents of the Saeffield cutlery and other British manufacturers, who find it impossible to compete with American manufacturers are quiet but not idle. The tactics of the foreign manufacturers and their agents have not changed. nor are those gentlemen less energetic than they were in 1861 when the Finance Committee of the Senate had before them 300 memorials from the agents of the Sheffield makers of steel, "which were sent around to all the blacksmiths in the United States to be signed," stating that the Tariff bill then pending "increased the auties upon steel from 40 to 261 per cent." Now, as then, there are to be seen in the corridors of the Capitol and the lobbies of the Washing on he els the agents of foreign manturers and importers, to say nothing of Messes David A. Wells and J. S. Moore and scores of other

free traders whose efforts to break down the system of protection may possibly be purely unselbsh. In the course of his speeca yesterday Mr. Carlisle flourished some nieces of crockery, which he describe as being the kind of ware to md on "the table of every plain farmer and workingman," and upon which, he said, it is proposed to increase the duty 15 per cent. Representative Brewer, who is a pottery manufacturer of sixteen years' experience, declared that not a piece of crockery of that kind has been seen or sood in the American market for the last twenty years. American farmers and working demand a better article. The question now is "who farnished Mr. Carlise with his samples?" Perhaps Mr. Maddox, the agent of the English manufacturers, might answer. Mr. Carlisle did not say he found them in a Washingington or New-York crockery establishment, as he would probably have been quick to do had such been the case. tem of protection may possibly be purely unsellish, been the case.

OPPOSED TO THE NAVAL BILL. SOME OF THE PROVISIONS WHICH ARE REPUGNANT TO NAVAL OFFICERS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Jan. 28 .- The officers of the Navy will contest in the Senate several features of general legislation which they dislike in Naval Appropriations bill as it passed Both line and staff officers the House. object strenuously to the abolition of the grade of Commodore. It is claimed that it forms a grade of promotion to which Cap:ains of long service are entitled, and gives staff officers of forty years' standing a chance of attaining a higher rank than they could otherwise get, while furnishing a convenient grade for officers intermediate between Captains and Admirals for the command of naval shore stations, as well as for the heads of bureaus in the De

tinetively American title there is in the Navy. The abolition of the Pay Corps is earnestly opposed by naval officers who say the functions of a naval Paymaster are not to be compared to those of an to the bill; another danger will be the adoption of so Army Paymaster. The Navy has neither Quarter-

partment. It is also urged that it is the most dis-

by officers of the Quartermaster and Commissary departments fall upon the naval Paymaster. Furthermore, if line officers of the Navy are detailed to act as Paymasters, they cannot be required to give bonds when assigned to merely temporary duty of that kind. Consequently the Treasury has a deep interest in maintaining the Pay Corps with its present security.

Efforts will also be made to get the Senate to in-

corporate several features of new legislation into

the Appropriation bill. Last year the bill made an appropriation for an Assistant Secretary of Navy, but the office was created. The present Secretary of the Navy is reported to be desirous of having an assistant, who shall be a good lawyer and shall represent the ci-il side of the establishment to the Secre-At present a Secretary who goes into office from civil life, chiefly as a friend and adviser of the President, finds himself dependent to a great extent upon a chief clerk, who will probably have the traditional prejudices of the Navy, and upon the eight heads of bureaus, who are themselves naval officers. The weight of their opinions is generally in favor of keeping things as they are. While the organization remains as it is the President might as well appoint the Admiral of the Navy to be its Secretary. An assistant secretary, a civilian and a lawyer, would find a useful field of duty in dealing with many questions which should be treated from a non-professional point of view, and would serve as a connecting link between the naval establishment and the people. It is said that Mr. Chaudier is anxious to have the office of Solicitor of the Navy re-created, so that there may be a law adviser for the department. The Judge-Advocate-G neral, whose functions approach the nearest to those of a solicitor, is a marine officer, detailed for the purpose, and cannot in the nature of things be a lawyer of much experience. An officer of the Navy might be detailed, if thought desirable, to have supervision over courtsmartial subordinate to the Solicitor, and the positions of Assistant Secretary and Solicitor might perhaps be combined.

Some of the Admirals of the Navy, it is understood, some of the Admirais of the Navy, it is inderiscool, advocate a plan for combining the systems of promotion by seniority and by selection for the grades of Commodore and Rear-Admiral. They propose that when a vacancy occurs in the grade of near-Admiral the Secretary and the three senior admirals who are within reach small form a Boar i togo over the list of Commodore and recommend for promotion the first man on the list, who is in every way qualined for the position. Promotions from the grade of Captain to that of Commodore might be made in the same way. There is a further proposition which is designed to give classicity to the Compelsory Retirement law. It is proposed that when an fineer has reamed the age of sixty-one years and his physical condition and professional qualifications are such as to make his receiven in active service assigned to remain out the active list three years longer. The fact is not discussed that this is distinct for another three years. In its officer has readered signal service to the Navy, both in peace and war, the was efficient in organizing the Navy as it is at present, and he is now president of the Advisory Roard which with have supervision of the construction of the new Navy, if there is to be one. He lately negotiated the Corean Treaty. advocate a plan for combining the systems

THE LIFE-SAVING SERVICE.

REASONS WHY IT SHOULD NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CONTROL OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT. [RY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Jan. 28,-Nearly all the heads of Treasury bureaus whose transfer to the Navy Departm ut was recommended by the present secretary of the Navy, have submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury written arguments against the change. That of the greatest public interest is the letter of Mr. Kimball, superintendent of the Life-Saving Service. After intimating that the only reason for the proposal is the desire to provide for idle naval officers, Mr. Kumball refers to a previous attempt made to transfer the service in 1878. There was then, he says, a vague idea that the Life-Saving Service and the Navy were in natural affinity, in asmuch as both had dealings with the sea. The loss of the Huron is mentioned to illustrate the essential difference between surfmen and sailors, says Mr. Kimbail, a single surf fi-nerman from the oust before them, he would have carried a line from the vessel to the shore, established communication and saved every soul on board. How surfnen on ship or shore would have done in such an emergency was shown in the case of the sloop-of-1872, where, after four boats containing thirty eight men had been successively capsized in broad daylight, and me an ordinary surf, in the endeavor to land, the natives rode out in their boats through the breakers and common saved the remainder of the crew. In any country in the world, except in Russia, Mr. Kimbali says, life-saving service had been a civil service in its inception. With the single exception of a cork life-boat got up by an English navai officer, all the life-saving appliances in this and every other country-life-boat, surf-boat, life-car, breeches, buoy, wreck-gun, boat-carriage, line rocket, coast-on light, and everything else-were invented or devised outside of the Navy o rthe Navy's

Mr. Kimball further says:

The case has not; grown better, but worse, since 1878, for the advocaces of the transfer. The Navy comes into court through its most skilful, adridt and able advocate, the Secretary of the Navy, who descants with earnest eloquence upon the melanchory ruin presented at this time by many adairs, and preads for several provinces of the Civil Service to add to this dilapidated empire. It minst be considered that the Line-Saving Service has attained, under the carsual nursure of Coogress, a perfection of regulation and a degree of efficiency which have won for it the respect and admiration of the country and of toreign nations; that its work is effected by an annual expeniture less than the frequent cost of putting engines into a single naval vessel; that the valor and seneral of its crews make the scalour ring year after year with great expedits. This has been effected solely by civilrp.oits. . . . This has been effected solely by civil-ans under civil management, and through the layor of ten years without the slightest aid from a single member of the mulitary marine.

Several reasons against the changes were gven as decisive by Mr. Kimball. Among them he asserts

decisive by Mr. Kimball. Among them he asserts that a civil service should not be put under military control, and that the surfmen would not submit to naval discipline. He also says that the transfer would be objectionable because it is absolutely essential to the success or the lif-saving service system that the service should remain numifluenced by politics in the choice of its agents.

There are reports also by Professor Hilgard, of the coast Survey; Dr. Hamilton, Surgeon-General of the Marine trospital service; Mr. Clark, of the Kevenne Marine and Mr. Damont, supervising Inspector-General of Steamoosts. The latter is especially caustic at the expense of the navy. Among other things it suggests that 75 per cent of the money now spent on naval affairs would be saved if the officers of the Steamboat Inspection Among other things it suggests that 75 per cent of the money now spent on naval affairs would be saved if the officers of the Stramboat Inspection Service were put in charge of them under the direction of the Secretary of the Trasury. It is nuderatood that all or the reports will be sent to

OPPOSITION TO THE LIBRARY BILL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 .- The friends of the bill for a new building for the library of Congress are working with much quiet earnestness to secure favora-ble action by this Congress. They realize that with a large Democratic majority in the next House, the fate of the bill would be scaled in advance. The measure was considered by the House about a month ago, and a large majority expressed a desire that the total cost of the building should be limited to \$2,000,000 and that it should be placed on land belonging to the United States. The bill was then recommitted and was reported back recently with its provisions so amended as to meet the wishes of a large majori y of the House.

The most bitter and unrelenting enemies of the bill in the House are ex-speaker Randall and Mr. Holman. By arbitrary use of his power when Speaker, Mr. Randall succeeded in preventing its consideration in the last Congress, and since then his enmity has not abated. Recently, it is said, a Continued on Fifth Page.

THE CRISIS IN FRANCE.

RESIGNATION OF THE MINISTRY.

PRESIDENT GREVY SUMMONS MM. FALLIERES AND JULES FERRY TO CONSULT IN REGARD TO A

PARIS, Jan. 28.—The Ministers met at the Elvsée this morning and tendered their resignations, which President Grévy has accepted.

President Grévy has summoned MM. Fallieres and Jules Ferry for the purpose of conferring with them in regard to the formation of a new Ministry. The Times, in a leading article this morning, ommenting on the resignation of

French Ministry, save that the news is of a most momentous character. Even its immediate consequences cannot at once be divined. The resignation of the Cabinet exhibits a catastrophe which threatens the political arrangements of the country and renders the substitution of a more powerful Ministry a matter of exceeding difficulty. THE CHAMBER TO BE DISSOLVED.

The Times's Paris correspondent says: The result of the situation is tolerably clear, namely, an early dissolution of the Chamber. In a conversation, for which the correspondent vouches, President Greyy remarked: "I am firmly resolved on a dissolution. Nobody can govern the country with the present Chamber of Deputies."

The Duclere Ministry was formed on August 7 of last year, succeeding the Ministry of M. de Freycinet, which had been in office only since January, when M. Gambetta retired from the leadership of the Cabinet on account of the hostility of the Chamber of Deputies to his election scheme, known as the Scrutin de Liste. The Ministry of M. Freyclast was weak and it went to pieces owing to the attempt of M. de Freycinet to steer be tween intervention and non-intervention on the Egyptian question. He secured a credit \$1,509,000 for naval armaments, and after another for the protection of the Suez Canal. This was rejected on J by 29 by a vote of 450 to 75. The Ministry immediately resigned. Nine days later a new Government was formed, as fol

M. Duelere, President of the Council and Minister of

M. Duclere, President of the Council and Minister of Foreign A flairs.
M. Deves, Minister of Justice.
M. Fallieres, Minister of the Interior,
M. Tirard, Minister of Finances.
General Billot, Minister of War.
Vice-Ad airal Jaurreguibery, Minister of Marine and
of the Colonies. M. Duvaux, Minister of Public Instruction and Fine

Arts.
M. Pierre Legrand, Minister of Commerce and, ad in terim, of Public Works.,
M. d. Maby, Minister of Agriculture,
M. Cochery, Minister of Posts and Telegrophs.

Subsequently M. Herisson was made Minister of Public Works. Two members of the Duclerc Cabinet, MM. Deves and Cochery, had been members of the Gambetta Ministry; and five members of the De Freyemet Ministry, MM. Billot, Jauregelberry, Tirard, de Mahy and Cochery remained in the Duclero Cabinet. The crisis which has resulted in the downfall of the Duclere Ministry grew out of the arrest of Cabinet. The crists which has resulted in the downfall of the Duclere Ministry grew out of the arrest of Prince Napoleon for issuing his manifesto. The Government introduced a bill in the Chamber of Deputies, authorizing the President of the Republic, by a decree given in Council, to expein members of former reignly families whose presence in France compromised the safety of the State, those returning to be liable to five years in prison. The Princes who now serve in the Army were to be placed on the retired list. This last clause in the bill caused an uproor in the Chamber. A committee was appointed to consult with the Caomet in regard both to toe bill and to other measures which were proposed bearing on the same subject. M. Fabre in reduced a counter project which proposed that the Orleans Princes should be prohibited from filling any givil or military posts, and that all pretenders should be promibled from accrusing the el cive function. The committee decided to support this substitute for the Government bill; hence, so far as tha dispatches received up to yesterday show, the Ministry resigned.

M. Jules Ferry, who, with M. Fallières, the Minister of the Interior in the outscoing Cabinet, has been summoned to consult with President Grey regarding the formation of a new Ministry, was at the head of the Cabinet which was formed on September 30, 1850, and which gave way to the Gambe to Government. M. Tirard was Minister of Arrichture and M. Cocaery, Minister of Posts and Telegraps in the Ferry Cabinet, which retired in November, 1881. M. Jules Ferry was a member of the De Freyeinet Cabinet last year.

ANARCHISTS READY TO STORM A PRISON.

ANARCHISTS READY TO STORM A PRISON. prison of St. Paul, where Prince Krapotkine is confined. Troops and police have been posted in the neighborhood of the prison, and other precautions have been taken to prevent the Anarchists from carrying out such a design.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

THE PHIENIX PARK MURDERS.

LONDON, Jan. 29,-The Times this morning says it believes the Government is in posession of information which will bring home the guilt on complicity in the Phoentx Park murders to at least two of the pris-oners who were before the magistrates The Times continues: "There can be no doubt the Government has a clew." The crisis of the struggle over leaves the Government on the winning side.

A STEAMER LOST WITH ALL HANDS. LONDON, Jan. 28 .- The steamer reported yester day as having been wrecked near Swansea was th Agnes Jack, bound from Sardinia with lead. The witnesses of the disaster, who were unable to render any assistance, saw the crew, numbering twelve men, swept one by one from the mast. The steamer was out of the reach of rockets and unapproacha-ble by boats. All hands perished, including the cautain, who, it is believed, stripped for the pur-pose of swimming ashore.

ARREST OF MUTINOUS SAILORS. LONDON, Jan. 28.-The British ship Narwhal, Captain Weston, from San Francisco, October 4, for Queenstown, has put into Falmouth. She has been aground. Five of the crew have been arrested for assaulting a sailor suspected of having given information in regard to a scuffle which occurred on the passage, between an officer and a man, in the course of which a gun exploded, wounding the latter. The officers were compelled to earry arms during the voyage.

DEATH OF THE BISHOP OF ABERDEEN. LONDON. Jan. 28.-The Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Suther, Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney, Scotland,

DEATH OF FREDERICK MARTIN. LONDON, Jan. 29.-Frederick Martin, formerly Carlyle's amanuensis, and proprietor of The States man's Year Book, is dead.

BEATEN BY REBELLIOUS, CONVICTS. CORK, Jan. 28,-The convicts employed at the naval works on Hawlbowline Island, in this harbor, mutined yesterday and attacked the wardens. The police interfered, but were badly beaten. The so diers and marines were then called out, but be-tore the disturbance could be quelled several persons were injured.

WOUNDED AGAIN IN A DUEL. Paris, Jan. 28 .- M. Deroutède, founder of the Patriotic League, who has just recovered from a wound received in a duel, was wounded again to day in a du-l with a journalist, the result of a

A FRENCH AERONAUT KILLED. MADRID, Jan. 28 .- A French aeronaut was killed here to-day by his balloon striking a housetop.

DAVITT ON LANDLORDISM. DUBLIN, Jan. 28 .- Mr. Davitt, in a speech at a meeting of the National League here to-day, said he demand an immediate change. It is understood that like act a man could perform would be to complete the crushing of the hidens of the property of the hidens of the pennsylvania Railioud. For the two other give a legislative blow to landfordism his name would be revered by every generation of the liberated victims. To wake increasing striffs against Irish poversy, misery and crime, Mr. Davitt said, seemed to him an irresistibly imperative duty. In could not help feeling that the most God-

conclusion he said that Irish landlordism and Castle rule were being beaten inch by inch.

ALARMING RUMORS CONTRADICTED. CAIRO, Jan. 28 .- A dispatch received here from Colonel Stewart shows the falsity of the recent alarming rumors relative to the state of affairs in the Soudan. Colonel Hicks and other British offcers, selected for service in the Soulan, will leave Suez for that country on Wednesday next, and until their arrival the Egyptian General will not un-dertake any military operations beyond concen-trating troops at Khartoum.

M. DE GIERS LEAVES VIENNA. VIENNA, Jan. 28 .- M. de Giers, the Russian Foreign Minister, left this city at 11 a. m. to-day for St. Petersburg. Prince Lobanoff, the Russian Ambassador, and staff accompanied him to the railroad sta-

REVIEW OF SPANISH TROOPS. MADRID, Jan. 28.-King Alfonso to-day reviewed 14,000 troops who were paraded in honor of Prince Louis Ferdinand of Bavaria, the fiancée of the Infanta Maria della Paz.

\$100,000 LOSS AT TITEYVILLE, MASS.

Boston, Jan. 28 .- of the fire on Sunday in Tapleyville, Mass., show a much greater loss than at first resorted. The large shoe factory of Martin, Clapp & French was entirely destroyed. The building was of wood, 150 by 40, feet and five stories high. Two hundred and fifty hands who are thrown out of work, were employed, and 200 cases of shoes were turned out weekly. The loss on machinery and stock will be total. The fire spread to three dwelling houses and destroyed them, the occupants losing all their household goods. Two other dwellings were badly

The total loss will probably exceed \$100,000. Martin. Clapp & French lose on machinery and stock \$80,000; insured for \$67,000. The loss on the fact ry building is \$12,000. It was owned by Waiter Martin and G. A. Tapley and insured for \$8,000. The dwellings were all owned by G. A. Tapley, and the loss on tacm is \$8,000, which is partially covered by insurance in the Holyoke Insurance Company.

A CHURCH DEDICATED IN BOSTON.

Boston, Jan. 28.-The Church of the Saered Heart (Roman Catholic) was dedi-cated in Cambridge to-day, Bishop Healey of Portland, Me., presented the dedication sermon, and the dedicatory services were performed by Archbishop Williams, of Boston, assisted by the Bishops of Portland, Springfield and Hartford. There were also in attendance many of the pricess of the arch-dioceses of Boston, Springfield and New-York. The building cost \$200,000.

A SHOOTING AFFRAY IN CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 28 .- Early this morning four men, all residents of Covington, Ky., had a shooting affray on the sidewalk at Race and Longworth-sts., this city. John Grenner, a liquor-seller, was slightly wounded and the ball from his pistol took effect in the left breast of Robert Elliott, a glass-blower, inflicting a probably fatal wound. William McCarty, one of the co-batants, was slightly wounded. Only four shots

BOYS INJURED WHILE COASTING.

Shamokin, Penn., Jan. 28 .- Five boys were injured in a coasting accident here yesterday, two of them, it is believed, fatally. One lad, Christian by name, was here internally, while another named Loby is arm broken; the others were budly injured. Two of the boys were going down a steen hill and lost control of the sled, striking three boys who were coming up.

A DEPUTY SURVEYOR ARRESTED.

CHICAGO, Jan. 28 .- Noah D. Smith, Special Deputy Surveyor of the United St. tea Customs at the Port of Memphis, Tenn., has been arrested here on charge of having embezzled Government funds to the amount of from \$5,000 to \$6,000. It is alleged that he collected dues from seamen for the Marine Hospital Pund, and converted the money to his own use. Smith says that he is tut \$325 s.ort, and that this sum was not embezzled, but simply overdrawn. He intended to make the deficiency good.

A FAMILY OF NEGROES POISONED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 28 .- Yesterday mornwhich is supposed to have been mad. About two hours thereafter the entire family became sick and were turswn into convuisions. Four o them died last night, and the other five are not expected to live.

SUICIDE OF A HOTEL CLERK.

Springfield, Mass., Jan. 28.-Charles E. Vinton, forty-six years old, son of a former hotel keeper House here the Riggs House at Washington and the

A RURGLARY IN RUFFALO.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 28,-The house of S. S. Guthrie, a prominent citizen, was entered by burgiars last night while the family were at the theatre, and a robbers left no ciew. A number of burglaries have been committed here recently, without any arrests having been made or any ciew to the perpetrators discovered.

A SUICIDE'S WIFE BENT ON SUICIDE.

DENVER, Col., Jan. 28.-Mrs. Grace Wellnan, wife of John H. Wellman, the Denver lawyer who committed suicide near Pueblo soveral weeks ago and whose body was found last Friday frightfully disfigured by magpies, has attempted three times to destroy kerself within the past two days.

A DENIAL FROM GOVERNOR WALLER. New-London, Copr., Jan. 28.-Governor Waller authorizes the str. ement that he has not ordered the discontinuance of subscriptions to any newspaper heretofore taken in the Executive Office during sessions

THE SPRAGUE MORTGAGE NOTES. PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 28.-Zachariah

Chaffee, trustee, announced that a first dividend of 10 per cent ir liquidation of the Sprague mortgage notes will be paid on February 5. AN IMPRISONED MINER RELEASED.

ALLENTOWN, Penn., Jan. 28 .- William Metzger, the miner who was imprisoned in the ore mine of the Hokendaqua Iron Company yesterday by a fall of

KILLING HIS WIFE WITH AN AXE.

Ivar, Va., Jan. 28.-Last night Lewis Carter, a negro living on Dr. Pretlow's farm, this county, attacked his wife with an axe, crushing her skull, from the effects of which she died this morning. The mur-

A PASTORATE RESIGNED.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 28 .- The Rev. E. T. Farnham this evening resigned the pastorate of the Friendship Street Baptist Church, having accepted a call to the Warburton Avenne Baptist Church, Youkers, N. Y.

AN AGED WOMAN KILLED.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Jan. 28 .- Mary McAl lister, age seventy, was killed by a train at Mittineague last night, while walking on the track.

DENVER AND RIO GRANDE DIRECTORS.

There are soon to be several changes in the Board of Directors of the Denver and Rio Grande Railway Company. The next annual meeting will not occur until April, but some of the largest stocknolders, whose interest in the road is said to have been acquired recently, two of the new directors will be William L. Scott, of

THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW.

DISCUSSION BY DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS. COMMENTS UPON THE PROVISIONS AND PROBABLE EFFECTS OF THE ACT-THE TONE OF CRITICISM

NOT UNFRIENDLY.

FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE,] Washington, January 28 .- The new Civil Service law has been the subject of a good deal of talk by practical men in the departments since it was signed by the President. This discussion has been by no means unfriendly, but it has shown some points in the law which may cause regret that it was not submitted before its final passage to some experienced officials here for suggestions. A number of points have been brought out also which are not prejudicial to the law, but which do not seem to have been generally understood in the discussions as to its probable effect.

No term is fixed for the office of Civil Service Commissioner, undoubtedly for the reason that the tenure should be as nearly permanent as possible. This may have an important effect upon the future of the reform, in case of the election of a Democratic President. It is to be supposed that the men whom President Arthur will select will be sincere and earnest in their work. It is true that under the law " the President may remove any Commissioner, but even a Democratic President might hesitate to remove a Civil Service Commissioner, whose office will represent the very idea of reform, except for cause. This feature of the law then may do much to protect the reform from even an unffiendly Administration. The bill as Mr. Eaton originally framed it provided that there should be a removal for cause only, and that the reasons should be filed, but Congress seemed to feel that this was too great a restriction to put upon the President.

Some members of Congress had the impression, apparently, that the provision for dividing appointments equally among the States and Territories referred to all offices affected by the bill, whether in Wasnington or elsewhere. The law says that appointments "in the departments at Washingien" shall be so apportioned. In fact, any other system is not practicable. It would not be possible, for example, to divide the appointments in the San Francisco Custom-House equally among the States, nor to keep an appointment account between the States which would insure equality for them in the total number of appointments in the Civil Service, whether within their own territory or in Washing-

The preference which ex-soldiers discharged by reason of wounds or disability incurred in the service have had under the R-vised Statutes seems to be practically aboushed by this taw, or nearly soas it must be apparently, under any system of competitive examinations—although the law says they shall not be deprived of this preference. The act provides that places "shall be filled by selections according to grade from among those graded highest" in the competitive examinations. Apparently a soldier can be preferred to a civilian only when they have the same marking, which would be a rare occurrence, as the marks will usually run into fractions, or when the soldier is "among those graded highest"-a shrase which the commission will doubtless construe in its rules

The provision for the appointment of a chief examiner by the commission is held to be clearly unconstitutional, inasmuch as Congress can vest the appointment of inferior officers only " in the President alone, in the cours of law, or in the heads of departments." The word "employ" is used in the act instead of "appoint," and it has been suggested that the difficulty might be evaded by allowing the President to appoint on recommendation of the commission. It may be decided, however, to ask

Congress to pass an amending act.

Most of the criticism upon the bill is directed to
the sections requiring the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster-General to arrange the clerks in various offices under their departments having more than fifty subordinates, in classes like those in the Washington departments in "as near conformicy as may be." It is said in both departments that Paris, Jan. 28.—A telegram from Lyons reports that the town is in a state of excitement. It is loves, for the reason that the grading outsi Washington is by no means so uniform as in the departments here. Here the clerks are divided into tour classes-first, second, third and fourth-receiving respectively \$1,200, \$1,400, \$1,600 and \$1,800 a year. It is true that these grades of pay are in use in custom-houses, etc., but there are kinds of clerical employes who cannot be classified in this way. In the Post Office Department the diffigulties are greater. While in the offices subordinate to the Treasury the various appointments are subject to the approval of the Department at Washington, the postinasters throughout the country are entirely independent of the Department in the appointment of their clerks. The Department makes an allowance to each office for clerk hire, and the postmaster appoints whom he pleases. This is true even in the great office of New-York. The salaries of these cierks run all the way from \$480 a year to \$2,000, the average being much lower than in the Department at Washington, and the sum being fixed in each case and in each office by the nature of the ser

vice and the amount of work to be done, It is said to be impracticable to make any classification of the postal cierical service throughout the country approaching that in use in the departments at Washington. But as the law directs the Postmaster-General to make a classification, it is snggested that the effect may be to bring the clerical service of the post-offices having fifty subordinates into the same relation with the Postmaster-General as the clerical service of the Treasury outside of Washington bears now to the Secretary of the

Mr. Hatton, the Assistant Postmaster-General, says characteristically that he "wouldn't mind if it

Mr. Hatton, the Assistant Postmaster-General, says characteristically that he "wouldn't mind if it did," because he would like "to see the Post Office D-partment have a little political influence, whereas now it is the only Civil Service Reform department in the Government—the only one in which each head of an office is independent and is held responsible for its management."

The wording of the section relating to the Treasury seems to finnt the present application of the law to customs offices. It says that the Secretary shall arrange in classes "the several cierks and persons emp oved by the Collector, Navai Officer, Surveyor and Appraisers, or either of them, or being in the public service at their respective offices in each custom district where the whole number of said clerks and persons shall be attogether as many as fig.y." This does not seem to bring Sub-Treasuries, or mints, assay offices, or Internal Revenue collectors' offices within the operation of the law. At least such is the opinion of several Treasury officials. If this be correct, the Sub-Treasury at New-York, thouga it has a force of more and one hundred persons, about fifty of whom are clerks, will not be subject to the law unless an order by the Prestaent unner subdivision 3 or section 6 would make it so. This says that the neads of departments and offices shall, on direction of the President, revise existing classifications or employes, and shall include clerks and officers in the public service pertaining to their respective opeartments, not before classified for examination." Under the law as it stands, and without any order from the President, it is thought that the only Treasury dices to which it will apply outside of Washington are the customs offices at Baltimore, nurlington. Vt., Boston, Chicago, Detroit, New-York, New-Orleans, Philadelipma and San Francisco. The post-offices to which it will apply outside of Washington are the customs offices at Baltimore, nurlington. Vt., Boston, Chicago, Detroit, New-York, New-Orleans, Philadeli

to see which offices con ain that number, and ne accurate list can be givelyet.

It is evident that the commission will have some difficinties to deal with at the outset, and while the Frishent is undoubledly wise in determining to make is selections as Commissioners very deliocrately, they will probably need all their time to get the system in working order within the period fix a by the act. This requires that after six months from the passage of the act no person shall be appointed who has not passed an examination. The law was signed January 16. By July 16, their fore, the Civil Service Commission must not only have settled the many questions of detail with which they are likely to be neet, and have established their examining boards in the twenty-five or more cities where there are offices